

City of Wilmington



MICHAEL S. PURZYCKI
Mayor

LAW DEPARTMENT
(302) 576-2175

February 9, 2022

Via Hand Delivery and Electronic Filing

The Honorable Colm F. Connolly
Chief Judge
U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware
J. Caleb Boggs Federal Building
844 N. King Street, Room 4124
Wilmington, DE 19801-3555

Re: *Ameera Shaheed & Earl Dickerson v. City of Wilmington, First State Towing, LLC and City Towing Services, LLC*
C.A. No.: 21-01333 CFC

Dear Chief Judge Connolly:

I write to seek guidance from the Court regarding the upcoming telephonic Rule 16 Scheduling Conference set for Thursday, February 17, 2022. In light of Defendant City of Wilmington's pending *Motion to Dismiss the Complaint*, the City requested that discovery be stayed pending this Court's ruling on the motion; however, counsel for Plaintiffs Ameera Shaheed and Earl Dickerson opposed the request, and, despite the parties' efforts to reach a compromise, they were unable to do so.

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The City is prepared to file a *Motion for a Protective Order*, consistent with the Court's outlined procedures for disputes relating to discovery matters and protective orders. However, all the parties, including Defendants First State Towing, LLC and City Towing Services, LLC, have agreed to a scheduling order if the Court denies the City's *Motion for a Protective Order*.

The City seeks the Court's guidance on the upcoming February 17th scheduling conference. Specifically, whether the Court would prefer the City to present its *Motion for a Protective Order* at the February 17th telephonic hearing or, consistent with the Court's procedures for protective orders, the Court would rather hold an in-person conference on the motion. If the latter, the City respectfully requests the Court's Case Manager provide possible dates for the Court to hear the City's motion. Plaintiffs' counsel are, of course, available for a telephonic conference on February 17th, but not for an in-person one.

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The City is available at Your Honor's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Rosamaria Tassone-DiNardo
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